

Broken Cisterns (Jeremiah 2:9-13)

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Broken Cisterns Jer 2: 9-13

A Really lame sermon illustration: About a year or so ago I took my family to the Sonic for dinner. Grayson who was 2 at the time ~~order~~ his favorite drink, a blue coconut icee. But its not long till my 2 year old does what 2 year olds do best in the midst of enjoying his tater tots he drops his icee. Well the icee lands top down and the straw pokes a hole in the bottom of the cup. Now I got blue icee leaking on my hands, Grayson crying, I blug a waitress ask for a new cup, she says just throw away I'll get you another. I throw away. Grayson goes hot isle. In that whole scene, I learned something about perspective. All Grayson sees is his blue coconut icee.

I. The People in Focus "For My People"

Just who does this verse refer to? My proposition said "Every Christian" do that who were talking to? Be careful in O.T. ^{too make app} ~~do not~~ see context.

A. A One Evil People - These people are not mentioned in this verse because they are not his people. They are a one evil people. They have just been out broken cisterns. They have not forsaken God because they have not known God.

They have created Gods to suit themselves. Out of the hardness of their own heart, they hold or suppress the truth in unrighteousness. What truth? It is John 1: 9 The testimony of grace, love and creation which is a man too

know Christ is disregarded. Although this shadowy character is in our text for the sake of contrast, they will not escape Judgment. No matter what Cistern they have dug ⁽³⁾ 1 Cor 6:9-10
B. A Two Evil People. - No! The 2 evil

people are in focus here! God says they are My people, he claims them as his possession. These people had a history w/ God, Look @ VS 2. Hear the emotion in his voice. VS 3 says that at one time you were completely mine and now "Be astonished O ye heavens" They have committed these 2 evils. The word evil has the root meaning of "breaking up" "all that is good + desirable" English equivalent would be "good for nothing" Brown Translation "what a low down rotten thing to do. These people

not only have been out broken cisterns like the heathen, but they have forsaken Me the true ⁽⁴⁾
II. The Person Forsaken "Me the fountain"

That leads us to who was being forsaken. Just who exactly were they walking away from? Many of us have worked for a bad boss or company. Maybe ⁽⁵⁾

A. An Everpresent Father - No our example falls apart. VS 5-7 Were they left to suffer in Egypt? Were they lacking when wandering through the desert? Were they powerless to take the land God promised them? No! Not one time! He has been The Everpresent Father pounding time + time again. As I read the O.T. prophets, I often read "I am the

1) ...icee that he wants being thrown away in the trash. All I see is a messy situation that simply will not work. I know that it's really lame, but the truth on perspective is clear and it is exactly what the Lord is relating in vs. 13. He is giving Godly wisdom to his people. Do you know what Godly wisdom is? It is seeing things from God's perspective. God is saying "this is what your backsliding and your idolatry look like to me. Every Christian must see their life direction and life activities the way God sees them. In verse 13 there are three descriptions that give us this godly insight. First of all notice...

2) John 1:9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

3) 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

4) ...they have forsaken me the true and the living God. What a far greater offence to have known God, to have known the love of Christ, to have experienced his love and his mercy and then start digging your own cistern of idolatry and worldliness.

5)maybe they were not being done right. Maybe following Yahweh is just not all it's cracked up to be. Maybe he has forsaken them to start with. Let's give these Israelites the benefit of the doubt.

God which brought you out of of Bondage.
VS 20. Oh if your backsliding heart will
walk down memories lane with me to a
time when you were cursed and doomed in sin
a time when you faltered and fell 15:19 a time when
God provided and met your needs and yet now
Ye have Forsaken and turned to other gods. ^{VS 12} Oh heavens

B. An Ever-flowing Fountain - How
does this Everpresent Father describe him-
self? As an Everflowing fountain, a fountain
of living waters, waters of abundance, waters
of more than enough, waters that are alive
and moving. John 10:10. I'm not talking
about a monetary jingle in your pocket, How do
^{you} put a price tag on a daily walking relation-
ship with the Living God. Gen 15:1 God told
Abraham. ③ He is the fountain of joys ever-
lasting and blessings that can not be repeated
by this world! of peace that passes understanding
of wisdom that no world knows not. A well spring
of strength and courage that can't be purchased.

III. The Preferred Fountain + leave them out
This rich abundant, springing living font-
ain is not the preferred Fountain by most Christ-
ians. It's not the preferred source of
Satisfaction. Why? First of all people prefer...

A. A Controlled Fountain - This whole
springing up business is a little unpredictable
I have to admit You never when this bout

will spring up and say "Go to a country that I will show thee of." The average church member is very uncomfortable around a wild eyed stirred up disciple. They want just enough religion or Christianity so that they can be in control pick the place, convenience, pen in just enough.

B. A Conditional Fountain - This preferred fountain has some conditions. The conditions have to be just right for a cistern to have water. Now I have to admit there is a very self satisfying work in building a cistern. Gotta dig it make it your self, men like the marks of their hands. That's my cistern I dug it, I picked out the spot, it's just enough for my four and no more. I'll pay my own water in it. Gotta have a good rainy season, Gotta go sporadic. ①

C. A Concluding Fountain - In the end, all the efforts poured in to your little cistern are in vain. Why? God said broken cistern that hold no water! They can't meet the need. They are here today and gone tomorrow. Relationship Cisterns - leave us with broken + unsatisfied hearts. Recreational cisterns are full of staid and corrupting waters. Religious cisterns are feverishly worked up, but are not rivers of living water. ②

IV. Closing: Are you at the bottom of a broken cistern with your face in the mud trying to quench your thirst. Just over the hill of repentance is a fountain of living water. In John 6 it is said that many of the disciples turned away ③

- 1) Gotta go sparingly! We got vacation and summer ball to do. Just take a few sips that's gotta last us all summer. These self mad gods are like the Philistine god Dagon that had to be constantly propped up. What you put into it is the only thing you get out of it. There is no overflow in that fountain. By digging a cistern we a making promises to ourselves that we have no power to keep.
- 2) ...rivers of living waters. Matthew Henry said when people come to broken cisterns to quench their thirst they "find nothing but mud and mire, the water is lost when they need it most. The Living waters of Christ have no conclusion: John 4:14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. But broken cisterns lead to disappointment and want.
- 3) ...turned away from Christ. Christ turns to the twelve and asks, "Will ye also go away?" May we say like Peter , "Lord to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." Do you not see what your backsliding and idolatry look like to God?